No. 818,048. PATENTED APR. 17, 1906.

G. RAISBECK.

SHOE LAST.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 2, 1905.

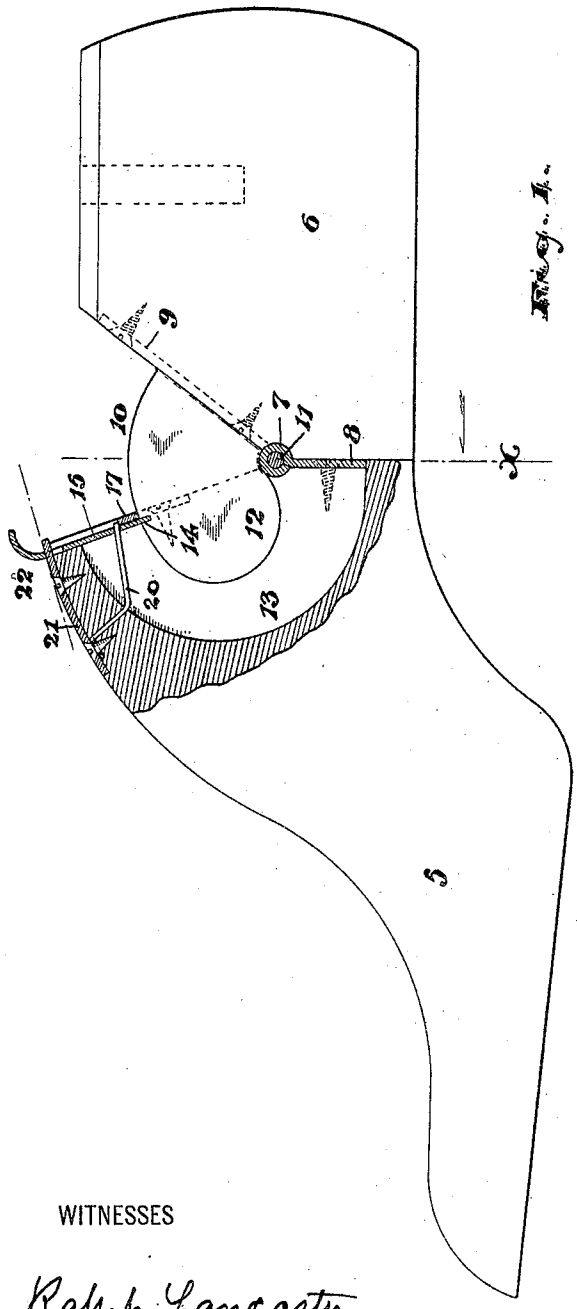

Fig. 1.

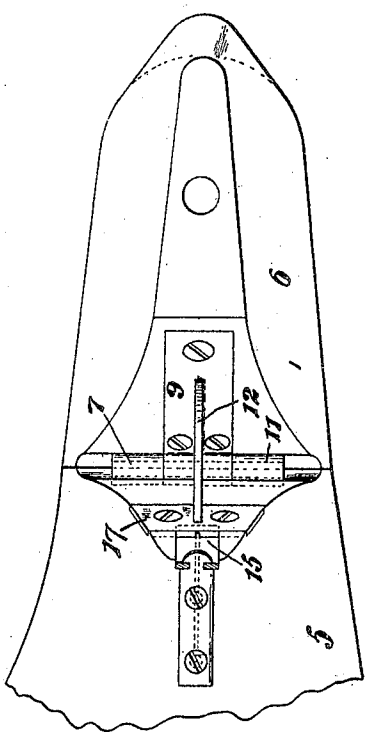

Fig. 3.

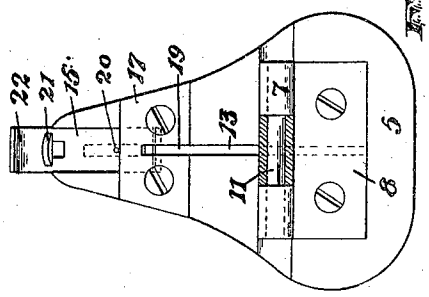

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

Ralph Lancaster

Russell M. Everett.

INVENTOR

George Raisbeck

BY

Charles N. Pell,

ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE RAISBECK, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JOSEPH A. RAISBECK, OF NEW DURHAM, NEW JERSEY.

SHOE-LAST.

No. 818,048. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 17, 1906.

Application filed May 2, 1905. Serial No. 258,459.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE RAISBECK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Lasts; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to numerals of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of this invention is to facilitate the operation of inserting a last within a shoe or removing the same therefrom, to reduce the cost and simplify the construction of the last and secure greater rigidity and strength of the operating parts, and to secure other advantages and results, some of which may be referred to in connection with the description of the working parts.

The invention consists in the improved last and in the arrangements and combinations of parts of the same, all substantially as will be hereinafter set forth, and finally embraced in the clauses of the claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in each of the several figures, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a last of my improved construction, partly broken away to show the interior construction more clearly. Fig. 2 is a section of the same, taken at line *x* of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a plan of the rear end thereof.

In said drawings, 5 indicates the front and 6 the rear portion of the body of my improved last. Said portions are connected at their contiguous ends by a hinge 7, having one leaf 8 screwed to the front portion near the bottom thereof and the other leaf 9 extending upwardly and screwed to the rear or heel portion of the last. A V-shaped aperture 10 is cut between the two sections or portions toward the top of the last, which permits a limited hinge action of one portion on the other, with the hinge-pin 11 as the center of movement. To the hinge-leaf 9 is rigidly fastened a metallic plate 12, extending out at right angles to said leaf and preferably forming a segment of a circle with the hinge-pin as a center. This said plate 12 fits into a saw cut 13 at the forward portion, sliding therein as the portions 5 6 move on the hinge-pin. In the curved upper edge of the plate 12 is formed a notch 14, adapted to receive a latch 15 on the forward section, the said latch being spring-operated and adapted to enter said notch when the sections or portions 5 and 6 are in their operative positions. (Shown in Fig. 1.) When said latch is thus in said notch, the said sections are locked firmly in such position, the locking end of the latch being braced or reinforced by a bracing or stay plate 17, which is fastened to the forward section across the saw cut 13 against the face of the latch, as indicated clearly in the three figures of the drawings. The bracing or stay plate 17 is cut or notched at 19, the cut coinciding with the saw cut 13 in the wooden portion 5, and thus presents a metallic bearing to the opposite sides of the plate 12, which conduces to durability and exactness of movement.

In Fig. 1, 20 indicates the spring fastened into the wooden body 5 and projecting downward through the saw cut 13 into a perforation in the latch, the said spring being normally under tension, acting in the direction of the notched plate 12. At the top of the last is a suitable keeper-plate 21 for holding the latch 15 in operative relation at its handled end 22, said plate 21 providing a slideway for the latch in any ordinary manner.

Lasts have heretofore been in hinged sections with a plate at the center for holding the hinged portions in firm relation; but heretofore said plate worked in a slot in both the front and rear portions and the rear portion was thereby greatly weakened. A curved cut was also required at the shank of the last instead of the straight saw cut 13. Inasmuch as the rear portion is the part that must of necessity be solid and firm for use, the improved construction conduces to greater durability as well as initial cheapness. By positively locking the parts by means of the sliding latch greater solidity and firmness is given to the last when in operative relation.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is—

1. A last comprising a front portion, a rear portion, these portions being cut away to form a V-shaped opening and abutting surfaces, a hinge having a leaf secured to the abutting face of the front portion and the other leaf attached to the inclined surface of

the rear portion, and a plate attached to the second leaf aforesaid and extending across the V-shaped opening and adapted to enter a saw cut in the front portion.

2. A last comprising a front portion having a saw cut therein, a rear portion, these portions being cut away to form a V-shaped opening and abutting surfaces, a hinge secured to the abutting surface of the front portion and the inclined surface of the rear portion, a plate secured to the last-mentioned leaf extending across the V-shaped opening and into the saw cut, and means on the front portion to latch the plate.

3. The improved last, comprising the front and rear portions, a two-leaf hinge joining said front and rear portions, the leaf fastened to the rear portion having a curved plate attached to said leaf, said plate extending forwardly into a straight cut formed in the forward last portion, and a sliding spring-actuated latch for locking said plate in the forward last portion, substantially as set forth.

4. The improved last, comprising front and rear portions, a two-leaf hinge, one leaf of which is fastened to the rear portion and has a curved plate which extends forwardly into a cut formed in the front portion, a sliding latch for locking said plate in the forward portion and a transverse stay-plate extending across the latch at its locking end, substantially as set forth.

5. The improved last having front and rear portions hinged together, said last having a V-shaped aperture at the joint and the forward portion having a saw cut and a transverse stay-plate across said saw cut, a plate secured to the rear portion and extending into said saw cut and a latch arranged between the forward portion and the stay-plate to lock the first said plate and the rear portion in connection therewith.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of May, 1905.

GEORGE RAISBECK.

Witnesses:
CHARLES H. PELL,
RUSSELL M. EVERETT.